

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Action Space London Events	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Camden	
Contact person: Mrs Barbara van Heel	Position: Co-director
Website: http://www.actionspace.org	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 289618
When was your organisation established? 04/04/1984	

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying? Making London More Inclusive
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve? Disabled people actively taking part in the arts or sport Disabled people reporting increased well-being as a result of taking part in the arts or sport
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. ActionSpace requests support over next three years as it expands provision to cover all of London and work with more young people with learning disabilities.
When will the funding be required? 20/06/2016
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £40,823 Year 2: £39,334 Year 3: £38,127 Total: £118,284

Aims of your organisation:

ActionSpace enables Londoners with learning disabilities to participate in the arts. The main aim of our work is to give people with learning disabilities' access to the arts, and the tools and confidence to have a voice and participate in wider society. We offer ongoing Studio Projects and fixed-term outreach projects tailored to specific groups of people with learning disabilities. At present, ActionSpace works with c.100 people with learning disabilities each week.

Our aims are:

- To encourage the personal and creative development of each artist;
- To be an advocate and provide a platform to showcase the talents of artists with learning disabilities;
- To provide opportunities for the general public to experience and engage with the great art created by artists with learning disabilities

And to increase the number of people with learning disabilities to engage with the visual arts, with a particular focus on the deprived boroughs of greater London, such as Newham.

Main activities of your organisation:

ActionSpace currently runs Studio Projects in the London boroughs of Camden and Wandsworth, which offer people with learning disabilities ongoing opportunities to participate in the arts through a wide range of visual arts projects, including painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography and film.

ActionSpace also runs fixed-term outreach projects tailored to specific groups of people, such as young people with learning disabilities and/or people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, often in partnership with day-centres or other community organisations.

All ActionSpace's projects offer weekly and on-going opportunity for people with learning disabilities to develop their creative practices supported by Artist Facilitators. The aim of our projects is to improve artists' confidence, self-esteem, communication skills and independence, through supporting them to devise, produce, exhibit and sell their own artwork -- we organise exhibitions ourselves and support our artists to enter work for open submission exhibitions. Our projects are user-led; they decide what they want to do and what materials and techniques to use.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
1	4	6	20

Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned, leased or rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding agreement?
Rented	

Summary of grant request

ActionSpace requests support over three years as it expands provision to cover more of London and increase its work with young people with learning disabilities.

At the end of 3 years we aim to be delivering five new projects:

- 3 new Studio Projects for adults with learning disabilities - another in the London borough of Newham (we recently opened our first there) and 2 in a north-west London borough.
- 2 new projects for Young People with learning disabilities - one in Newham and one in a north-west London.

Need for the expansion

- Demand for our Studio Projects in Camden and Wandsworth is growing -- all are fully booked and there is no room to expand.
- People with learning disabilities from outer London boroughs are unable to attend, as travel is a barrier for people with learning disabilities.
- Newham has low arts engagement and no comparable provision for people with learning disabilities
- Young people with learning disabilities need opportunities to explore their creativity; meet role models, like-minded young people and create support networks.

Aims

- To increase our reach geographically to enable more Londoners with learning disabilities to participate in the arts.
- To support young people with learning disabilities.
- To improve the quality of life for more Londoners with learning disabilities

How the work will be delivered

Sheryll Catto, ActionSpace's Co-Director will manage the project; professional Artist Facilitators will run the creative sessions, supported by two volunteers; and our Pastoral Care Coordinator will ensure participants' needs are catered for.

Delivery will involve:

- running each project on a weekly basis at the same time and place
- working in small groups with a high staff-participant ratio;
- focusing on participants' talents;
- providing a safe and supportive environment;
- access to high quality art materials and equipment;
- support of an experienced Artist Facilitator;
- exhibiting and selling work;

ActionSpace has 30 years experience in delivering creative projects for people with learning disabilities. We currently run successful Studio Projects in Camden and Wandsworth; Young People's projects in Camden and Wandsworth; and several outreach projects.

Our expertise and approach is demonstrated by the positive feedback and outcomes of previous projects. Evaluation shows that:

- 80% of beneficiaries reported a reduction in their sense of isolation.
- 50% of beneficiaries reported improved confidence and self-esteem.
- 60% of beneficiaries reported a reduction in anxiety.

Meeting 'Making London More Inclusive' outcomes:

1. The expansion means that more people with learning disabilities will participate in the arts.
2. The new participants with learning disabilities will report increased well-being.
3. More young people with learning disabilities will be supported as they transition to adulthood.

Meeting the Trust's 'Good Practice' principles:

- We involve beneficiaries in planning our work and invite them to come to our Board meetings. It should be recognized that the majority of our beneficiaries have very severe learning disabilities. On our management committee are two people with learning disabilities and one staff member has a learning disability. A funded project that includes training and paying artists with learning disabilities to lead workshops has just begun.
- This project increases access. Although our work centres on disability, within that characterization we are committed to inclusion and equality of opportunity and welcome people of all backgrounds.
- We value the contribution volunteers make. Volunteers receive expenses, experience and on the job training.
- We are committed to reducing the environmental impact of our business and focus on the areas where we both have the greatest impact and the greatest control.

If you need any planning or other statutory consents for the project to proceed, what stage have the applications reached?

Do you have a Vulnerable Adults policy? **Yes**

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

n/a

Outputs and outcomes

What are the main activities or outputs you want to deliver? Please include no more than 5. By activities or outputs we mean the services, products or facilities you plan to deliver. If you plan to deliver work over more than one year you should include activities over the full grant period requested. Try to be specific.

Studio Project in the London Borough of Newham that offers approximately 10 adults with learning disabilities the opportunity to participate in creative art sessions on a regular and long-term basis. (Consolidating one Studio Project and launching one extra one the following year, two in total.)

Studio Project in a north west London borough (exact location to be decided in year 1) that offers approximately 10 adults with learning disabilities the opportunity to participate in creative art sessions on a regular and long-term basis. (Launching two in the three year funding period)

One Young People's Project in the London borough of Newham that offers approximately 10 young people with learning disabilities the opportunity to participate in creative art sessions on a regular basis, with the opportunity to progress to a Studio Project if desired.

One Young People's Project in a north west London borough that offers approximately 10 young people with learning disabilities the opportunity to participate in creative art sessions on a regular basis, with the opportunity to progress to a Studio Project if desired.

Exhibitions, selling work, residencies as well as seeking out commissions will be part of the service ActionSpace will provide to the new participants. Each participant will have at least one exhibition opportunity per year and access to various gallery trips, master classes, and other training opportunities.

What main differences or outcomes do you hope the activities you have described above will achieve? Please include no more than 5. By differences or outcomes we mean the changes, benefits, learning or other effects that result from the work your project would deliver. These might be for individuals, families, communities or the environment.

The well-being of people with learning disabilities who participate in the new projects will improve through participation in regular ongoing creative activity with the same group of people; encouraging a new interest and the opportunity to make friends.

The people with learning disabilities who participate in the new projects will gain self-confidence, self-esteem and communication and social skills through being recognised for their artistic talents, working alongside professional artists and having the opportunity to exhibit and sell their work.

The additional people with learning disabilities who participate in the new projects will gain an increased sense of choice and control over their own lives, through being supported to make their own decisions and choices in creating their artwork.

The people with learning disabilities who participate in the new projects will learn an alternative method of expressing their thoughts and emotions, which will lead to a reduction in anxiety, therefore a lot of their challenging behaviour will begin to disappear.

For the majority of the young people with learning disabilities who participate in the new Young People's projects it will be their first engagement with the visual arts. They will benefit from new support networks, inspiring role models and discovering a potential new career path.

Do you plan to continue the activity beyond the period for which you are requesting funding? If so, how do you intend to sustain it? If not, what is your exit strategy?

The expansion will initially involve a lot of research, development and particularly recruitment. After the three year period we anticipate that all the projects will be established and fully booked, with the aim of the new Studio Projects to continue to expand and to become self-sustaining, based on the model provided by our existing Studio Projects in Wandsworth and Camden.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

How many people will benefit directly from the grant per year?

60

In which Greater London borough(s) or areas of London will your beneficiaries live?

Newham (50%)

Brent (50%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

16-24

25-44

45-64

What gender will beneficiaries be?

All

What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?

A range of ethnic groups

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?

91-100%

Funding required for the project

What is the total cost of the proposed activity/project?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Young People Project in Newham	0	5,190	7,910	13,100
Studio Projects in Newham	14,626	16,960	17,376	48,962
Young People Project in North West London	5,100	7,670	7,910	20,680
Studio projects in North West London	0	8,560	16,110	24,760
Co-Director	22,327	14,113	11,417	47,857
10% of annual office rent	1,163	1,197	1,233	3,593
10% of office cost	1,207	1,244	1,281	3,732
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	44,423	54,934	63,237	162,694

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
We have not raised any income towards this programme but we anticipate to generate earned income through session fees to the tune off	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	3,600	15,600	25,110	44,310
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	3,600	15,600	25,110	44,310

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Young People project in Newham	0	5,190	7,910	13,100
Studio Projects in Newham	11,026	4,960	2,496	18,482
Young People Project in North West London	5,100	7,670	7,910	20,680
Studio Projects in North West London	0	4,960	5,880	10,840
Co-director	22,327	14,113	11,417	47,857
10% of annual office rent	1,163	1,197	1,233	3,593
10% of office cost	1,207	1,244	1,281	3,732
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	40,823	39,334	38,127	118,284

40,823 39,334 38,130
 30 40

Finance details

Please complete using your most recent audited or independently examined accounts.

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2015
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	45,544
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment income	202
Income from charitable activities	215,036
Other sources	8,164
Total Income:	268,946

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	235,417
Governance costs	3,455
Cost of generating funds	5,353
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	244,225
Net (deficit)/surplus:	24,721
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	24,721

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	2
Investments	0
Net current assets	174,819
Long-term liabilities	0
*Total Assets (A):	174,821

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	16,645
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	158,176
*Total Reserves (B):	174,821

* Please note that total Assets (A) and Total Reserves (B) should be the same.

Statutory funding

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?
21-30%

Organisational changes

Describe any significant changes to your structure, financial position or core activities since the date of your most recent accounts:

ActionSpace changed their staff structure. In July 1015, ActionSpace recruited a full time General Manager. The company has not had a General Manager for many years. However after a rigorous review of the organisation, focusing on sustainability, the ambitions of the company, and the changing needs of people with learning disabilities, the Board decided the company needed a full time General Manager once again.

Previous funding received

Please list the funding received by your organisation from the following statutory sources during the last THREE years.

	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	32,987	40,115	40,482
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	45,154	45,154	45,233

Previous grants received

Please list the grants received by your organisation from charitable trusts and foundations (other than City Bridge Trust) during the last THREE years. List source, years and annual amounts. Please include the 5 largest only.

Name of Funder	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
Lloyds TSB Foundation	0	13,000	14,000
St Andrews Holborn	0	5,000	5,000
Henry Smith Charity	0	0	20,000
Trusthouse Charitable Trust	0	8,000	0
Santander Fund	0	5,400	0

Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information I have provided in this application form is correct. I fully understand that City Bridge Trust has zero tolerance towards fraud and will seek to prosecute and recover funds in every instance.

Please confirm: Yes Full Name: **Barbara Maria van Heel**

Role within **Co-director**
Organisation: